

The Southeast News

VOLUME X, NUMBER 11

SEPTEMBER 1962

Rev. And Mrs. Arnold Slater Impressed By Rotterdam International Council Meeting

The Rev. Arnold Slater, minister of Pilgrim Congregational Church, Chattanooga, and Mrs. Slater, returned recently from Holland where they attended the meeting of the International Congregational Council, as delegate and alternate.

The Rev. Mr. Slater had the following to report:

"Approximately 650 people were official and alternate delegates and they represented churches from many parts of the world. The main purpose of the meeting is to give fellowship to the nearly 3 million members who have little opportunity of meeting otherwise.

"It is significant that the host for the assembly was the Remonstrant Church, a relatively small but an important body in Holland. As one of the early reformation movements the Remonstrant fellowship found the Calvinism of the day too inflexible; as followers of Arminius it also found the writings of the Scholar Erasmus more to its intellectual taste.

"The theme for the year's meeting was 'The Essentials of Faith.' Some of the American theologians who gave addresses on the theme were Dr. Paul Minear, Dr. James Gustafson and Dr. Roger Shinn.

"Interest groups dealing with the church as a witnessing, teaching, worshiping and serving community were led by men qualified in these special areas of interest.

"The retiring moderator, Dr. Russell Stafford, president of the Hartford (Conn.) Seminary, graciously gave his office to the newly elected moderator, Dr. Norman Goodall, an Englishman, presently on the staff of the World Council of Churches.

"Perhaps no church has cherished its independence with more zeal than the Congregational fellowship, yet paradoxically enough, it is found to be an active member of all groups seeking unity. The ecumenical movement was much discussed and the council ex-

pects to pursue exploration in this area.

"While Congregational churches are free to use any of the great church creeds and do use them on occasions, such as Apostles, Nicene, Westminster, it has no official creed of its own but prefers from time to time to formulate statements of faith expressing the great spiritual truths in contemporary form—for it believes that mankind in his search for reality, faith, meaning and God, must be forever discovering new expressions of this faith.

"The spiritual tone of the meeting was quite evident and the fellowship was warm—the people of Rotterdam were especially fine hosts. The Burgomaster of the city, accompanied by the Royal Military Band Quartet, gave the official welcome in the Town Hall but we found in the homes and the churches some of the same spirit that must have cheered the Pilgrim fathers who found refuge there centuries ago."

The Rev. and Mrs. Slater declared that they were quite impressed with the meeting

Rev. and Mrs. Slater represented the Southeast Convention at the International Council as delegate and alternate.

In addition to attending this important meeting it was possible for them to travel around a bit before returning to the states.

In order to help make the trip possible for both Mr. and Mrs. Slater, the members of Pilgrim Congregational Church presented them with a gift of money in excess of \$1,000. The gift was by way of appreciation for the many years of service the Slaters have given to the church.

Born in England, Mr. Slater came to this country as a young man. On this trip he and Mrs. Slater were able to visit friends and relatives he had not seen in years, including his sister, Mrs. John Wood, in London. Mr. Slater performed the marriage ceremony for a niece while in England.

Schedule Of Fall Meetings Associations & Conferences

The six associations and conferences of the Southeast Convention will hold their annual fall meetings during the period of September 29 through October 20.

The churches of the convention are urged to pay their OCWM goals and Per Capita Dues in full prior to the meetings. The Per Capita Dues should be paid to the association or conference treasurer. OCWM contributions go to the convention office.

It is anticipated that there will be a missionary or national staff person as the featured speaker for each of the meetings.

Both Rev. Emilie F. Pitcock, Minister of Christian Education, and Rev. James H. Lightbourne Jr., Superintendent, will attend each association and conference and will be available to answer questions and provide materials.

Every church is urged to be represented by lay delegates and minister at its association or conference.

September 29 — North Alabama Association, Old Liberty Grove Church, Town Creek, Rev. C. W. Baldwin, Moderator

October 6-7 — S. Alabama-N. W. Florida Association, Antioch Church, Andalusia, Ala., Rev. N. A. Long, Moderator

October 8 — Central Alabama Association, Community Church, Seman, Ala., Rev. Harold C. Henderson, Moderator

October 13-14 — Kentucky-Tennessee Conference, Nashville, Tenn., Rev. Clyde C. Flannery, Moderator

October 17-18 — East Alabama Association
Wednesday — State Line Church
Thursday — First Church, Roanoke, Rev. John D. Schofield, Moderator

October 19-20 — Georgia-South Carolina Conference, First Church, Columbus, Ga., Rev. Ralph D. Worley, Moderator

Council For Social Action Supports Prayer Decision

The Council for Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ recently declared its support of the U. S. Supreme Court decision banning use of an official prayer in New York State public schools.

At the same time, the Council's directors, holding their semi-annual meeting at Fisk University, called on members of the denomination to use and improve opportunities for religious training in church and home "and not look to other agencies to do the job."

The statement reads:

The Council for Christian Social Action of the United Church of Christ declares its support of the U. S. Supreme Court in its decision in *Engel v. Vitale* for the following reasons: —

1. The decision upholds the principle of church-state separation. The CCSA believes that because the New York State Regent's prayer was created, adopted and administered by state officials and used as a religious exercise in the public schools, it violated the Establishment Clause of the First Amendment of the Federal Constitution. The fact that the prayer was non-denominational and its recitation voluntary does not alter the fact that the State prescribed a particular form of prayer to be used as an official prayer in a program of governmentally sponsored religious activity. Thus, the State was carrying out a function which is not its business to perform.

2. We believe that the responsibility for religious education and worship belongs to the church and home where it can be most effectively performed. Significant prayer is an expression of deep religious faith and conviction which cannot in a public school setting appropriately be expressed corporately where there is a wide variety of belief and unbelief.

3. There is nothing in the decision which bans private prayer. Nor is there anything in the decision which restricts teaching about the contributions religious leaders, movements and ideas have made in the shaping of our history and culture, and we would encourage the public school to do this more effectively.

The CCSA calls upon the members of our churches to support the Supreme Court decision. It urges those concerned about the spiritual development of children to use and improve the opportunities for religious training in the

"Aladdin Lights, T. V. A. And The Church"

(This article was written by Rev. Guy L. Colbert for the booklet "The Town and Country Ministry Considered Regionally" published by the United Church Department of the Church in Town and Country.)

The pastorate of a Town and Country Church in the Southland offers a challenge and reward as a high calling, both in the demands it makes upon the pastor and his family, and in the rich opportunities it offers for fellowship and service.

Rural America has changed remarkably in the last fifteen years. This is particularly true in the Southeast. The trend toward larger farms has not touched this region as much as some areas, but farming has become more diversified. Farmers are using their county and home demonstration agents' services more. The majority own their land and farm either full or part time.

Fifteen years ago most Southern rural homes and churches were lighted by kerosene or Aladdin lights, while water came from a spring or open well. Church services were once-or-twice-a-month "preaching" services. The other Sundays offered Sunday School for adults and children led by laymen and laywomen. Pastoral care consisted of marrying and burying the members and little else. But great influences through the T. V. A., television and better roads have changed much of this.

The majority of the people whom the country minister is called to serve are thinking people. They have not surrendered their independence to a boss, a union, or a corporation in return for a salary or a steady pay check. The small farmer and his family are both management and labor in carrying out their plans. In order to counsel with his people the pastor should know soil conditions as they affect the community and be able to refer his people to the appropriate office of the Soil Conservation Service. The pastor's community interests should include relating young people to the land, the conservation of basic resources, rural education, and the rural health program. He should be aware of community conflict, with an eye to its solution.

Our forefathers built churches admirably suited to their needs, meeting houses where the people met mainly to hear sermons. Over the years the needs have changed. If the town and country church is to fulfill its destiny it must provide adequate facilities for Sunday

church and the home and not look to other agencies to do the job.

School and fellowship as well as worship. Here, too, the pastor must provide counsel and leadership.

A striking example of a church that changed is First Church, Caddo, Lawrence County, Alabama. For over fifty years this congregation existed as a once-or-twice-a-month "preaching station," a one-room building with Sunday School classes scattered about the sanctuary. Suddenly, in the mid-fifties, a change took place. The pastor and several other families began to tithe. It was not long before a new building with an educational wing was completed with the help of the Southeast Convention and the Church Building Society.

With the first service in the new building, the attendance doubled. The congregation now requires a full time ministry, has met its mission goal increases, and plans to be fully self-supporting when the building debts have been erased. The membership is dominantly rural, though a few families drive from a city twelve miles away. Aside from meeting its own goals, the church has inspired two other churches in the same association, who are now improving their facilities.

Outstanding challenges to a Southern rural minister are the following: interesting the sharecropper in the church and the soil; knowing what resources are available to meet the needs of the mentally disturbed; being a true pastor to the physically ill at the hospitals and in their homes.

In preparation for this ministry, the country pastor should be able to preach Bible-centered, exegetical sermons. He should know and understand the Old Testament, its language and people. The Bible was written originally for a pastoral and small-farm people. The Biblical Doctrine of Men in Society by G. Ernest Wright, is a valuable resource book. The books of Rockwell C. Smith and similar rural leaders will be helpful.

City as well as country churches in the South still have revivals, shape-note singings, and testimony meetings, and they also have a lot of old-fashioned neighborliness and hospitality. If a pastor will listen to his people they will listen to him. If he is found worthy, they will love him.

Miss Pat Brackin Of Headland, Alabama Reports On Camp Minniwanca Experience

This summer I had the privilege of attending Camp Minniwanca in the wooded sand dune country of western Michigan. The camp is located about 35 miles north of the city of Muskegon. This year's older girls' camp was held from July 30 to August 12.

Camp Minniwanca is owned and operated by the American Youth Foundation, a non-profit, non-denominational Christian organization dedicated to the purpose of assisting capable young people in life planning, leadership training, and balanced four-fold living.

All the states, Canada, and several foreign countries were represented at the camp, with 600 girls and 100 leaders this summer.

Self discovery, life planning, balanced development, life enrichment, training, leadership, service, and shared personality are the principles which underlie the leadership training program at Camp Minniwanca. The program is geared to the level of young people of leadership ability. Because it is a camp of action, the daily program is deliberately planned to test the camper's capacity for tackling a job and getting it done, promptly and successfully.

The camp swings into action at 6:30 in the morning. Flag raising, limbering-up exercises and a dip in the lake follow in rapid succession. After a satisfying breakfast came a bit of house-keeping work in order to get the camp set for daily inspection.

The remainder of the morning was spent in a challenging program of leadership training. An air of friendly informality pervaded the log cabin class rooms. Instructors and campers are "fellow campers". Lecture-discussion procedure was followed in all groups. The program contained a broad range of subjects of intense interest to the campers.

The first class period dealt with the subject of balanced four-fold development in a Christian leader. It stressed the importance of mental, social, physical and religious development being balanced. The second period was devoted to the subject of "The Life and Teachings of Jesus", traced His early life and the parables He taught. Our third class, "The Art of Creative Living", dealt with our own personal lives, and the problems we must face as responsible Christian leaders. In "Understanding Leadership", our fourth per-

iod class, we learned the main requirements of leadership and how to put them into action. Early in the afternoon we had an elective class period. For the first week I took "Leadership In The Rural Community." This was an interesting opportunity for me to learn many of the problems of the rural areas around the country, as well as some helpful pointers to put to use in my own home community. My second week elective was "Public Speaking." I learned many of the qualities of a good speaker and at the end of the week had an opportunity to test what I had learned. Each member of the class had to write and deliver a speech to the class.

Each morning was livened by an enthusiastic assembly program at which time we had opportunity to hear many very interesting topics of discussion. These range from the World Council of Churches Assembly in New Delhi to a rodeo in Texas.

Lunch was followed by a period of rest and relaxation in preparation for the big afternoon program of an elective class period, organized games, tournaments, swimming, canoeing, sailing, and other recreational activities for the purpose of leadership training.

Following evening dinner we enjoyed a bit of free time, after which came the sunset Vesper Service on a high dune overlooking Lake Michigan. Varied and interesting social events were planned for the evening. Lights out by ten o'clock brought to a close a day of high adventure and good fellowship.

There is a feeling throughout the camp of unity and understanding. The different creeds, cultures and races of the 600 girls at Camp Minniwanca go together to create an air of friendship and understanding for all to see and take part in at the camp. It has been a real inspiration and an honor to have had Rev. Leila W. Anderson, a field worker for the Board for Homeland Ministries, sponsor me for the two weeks. I hope to be able to share these experiences and the knowledge I gained with others throughout the Southeast Convention, and to help in some way with the work that is being done, as a result of attending Camp Minniwanca.

Pat Brackin,
Headland, Alabama

United Church Favored By Important Court Decision

National leaders of the United Church of Christ recently hailed a decision rendered July 18 by an Ohio court as establishing the right of local Congregational Christian churches to join the United Church of Christ without jeopardizing their property rights.

The suit was brought by 51 dissident members of the Washington Congregational Church of Toledo, Ohio, to set aside the church's majority vote (154 to 55) to join the United Church of Christ.

The plaintiffs sought to block entry of the church into the United Church of Christ on the grounds that the United Church constitution would put the church under ecclesiastical control in contravention of its traditional Congregational autonomy.

The defendant church maintained that courts of New York state and a Federal District Court in New York had thoroughly aired this question and found no violation.

The Ohio court granted the defense motion for a summary judgment dissolving a temporary injunction against the church and dismissing the case on the grounds that the issues had already been adjudicated.

In effect, the previous decisions in the New York and Federal courts held that local churches opposed to the union had no legal grounds for preventing its formation on a national basis.

The effect of the Ohio court's action, United Church leaders here pointed out, is that a minority group within a local church has no legal ground for keeping that church out of the United Church.

United Church leaders believe that the decision will be regarded as an important precedent in cases now before the courts in Wyoming, Wisconsin, and Michigan by denying the application of the legal principle of "Faithful Minority."

Under this principle the plaintiffs contend that they are a "faithful minority" and that the United Church of Christ departs from the traditions of Congregationalism, thus giving the minority the right to prevent their churches from joining the United Church of Christ.

The Ohio court decision rejects that view and upholds the previous decisions of New York state and the federal courts, which held that the union as proposed and carried out is consistent with Congregational tradition.

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Superintendent's Corner

For me the day after Labor Day always means that for all practical purposes summer with its variety of activities is over. The time of vacation is in the past. Now one must look ahead to the vigorous routine of work that claims attention. It is good that this is so, yet I must confess to a feeling of reluctance to admit that summer is over.

As a family we have had a busy, interesting, educational, and fun-filled summer. Our youngest child, Leslie Hope, attended the Camp Fire Girls' camp at Camp Toccoa, Ga., for a week. Our oldest son, Jimmy, was at the Senior High Young People's Camp at Roosevelt State Park. He also had a week of camping with his Explorer Post and made the weekend raft trip down the Chattahoochee River with the Explorers. Andy, our middle youngster, found plenty to do around home.

On vacation we took a trip that involved a little more than 3 weeks and covered in excess of 3000 miles. During the period we had a week at the beach at Nag's Head, N. C., visited our nation's capital, and spent time with both sets of grandparents in Rhode Island (Andersons) and Pennsylvania (Lightbournes).

We also got in a visit to the Okefenokee Swamp Park in south Georgia and a long weekend of camping at the Red Top Mountain State Park about 40 miles from Atlanta.

Now summer and vacation are over for us. Today the children went back to school. Carolyn begins her round of church, school, and community activities, along with her role of homemaker. I'm back at work. And we all are healthy and happy to be alive! We hope it is so with you!

Worship Service

for

Christian Education Sunday

September 30, 1962

"THE CHRISTIAN AND HIS BIBLE"

PRELUDE

THE CALL TO WORSHIP (Minister and Congregation)

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands. Serve the Lord with gladness; come before his presence with singing.

KNOW YE THAT THE LORD, HE IS GOD: IT IS HE THAT HATH MADE US AND NOT WE OURSELVES: WE ARE HIS PEOPLE, AND THE SHEEP OF HIS PASTURE.

Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise; be thankful unto him, and bless his Name.

FOR THE LORD IS GOOD: HIS MERCY IS EVERLASTING, AND HIS TRUTH ENDURETH TO ALL GENERATIONS.

—Psalm 100

A HYMN OF PRAISE: "We Praise Thee, O God"

THE INVOCATION (and the LORD'S PRAYER)

We thank Thee for the Bible, which tells us whence we came and whither we may go, and which contains all that we need to lead us in our welfare here and hereafter. We thank Thee for its healing balm when the storms of life beat upon us. We praise Thy name, O Lord, from whom all blessings flow, for the Church that Thou hast established. Grant that Thy people may be obedient, humble, loyal, and sacrificial each day for the building of Thy Kingdom here on earth. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

THE SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 1; Psalm 43; Deut. 6:4-9; I John 4:7-12

THE GLORIA PATRI

ANTHEM

THE SERVICE OF PRAYER

Call to Prayer

Silent Prayer

The Pastoral Prayer

THE OFFERING AND DOXOLOGY

HYMN: "How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints"

THE SERMON: "THE CHRISTIAN AND HIS BIBLE"

Someone once said that God did not stop speaking when his book went to press. The statement is somewhat flippant perhaps, but it contains more wisdom than many seemingly weightier pronouncements. The facts are these: God did not speak once to the prophets, once to the disciples, and once to Paul, and then stop as soon as his words were canonized and printed. On the contrary, God speaks anew, directly, personally, each time the Christian picks up his Bible and studies it with devotion and understanding.

The Bible is simply the history of God's search for man, and man's search for God. This search is consummated each time the Christian, with the help of the Holy Spirit, reads the Bible with insight . . .

It is one of the responsibilities of Christian education to bring this learning to the individual Christian, not just because biblical archeology is fascinating, not just because new translations of the Bible are refreshing, but because this learning helps the Christian to make the confrontation with God that is always possible when the Bible is opened.

We Protestants are historically opposed to inserting anything or anyone between the individual Christian and his God. We have done away for the most part with pomp, pageantry, images, and other trappings which we feel obscure the face of God. Too often, however, we have moved in the other

Elder Church Reports Busy Summer Full Of Various Activities

Elder Congregational Christian Church had a successful five-day Bible School the last week of July. There were 30 boys and girls under 16 years of age enrolled. Those over 16 helped with the school. There were 11 workers, including Louise Duck, the director. The leaders were the Rev. Bill Robinson, Randy Roberts, Sylvia Freeman, Vicki Young, Linda Young, Randy Fuller, Gary Ingram, Mrs. Aaron Duck, Mrs. Justin Duck, and Mrs. Woodroe Washburn. Closing exercises were held on Friday night at the end of the week. Each class took part in this with a short program built around the theme "My Bible and I." A large group of parents, grandparents, and friends were present to hear of the things learned during the week, view the handwork, and see the children receive their certificates.

Refreshments were served by the mothers at each session, including the closing night.

Revival services began on Monday, August 6, and were held through Friday night. The Rev. John W. Wilder, pastor of Mt. Olive Church, Tallassee, Alabama, was the guest evangelist. He was helped by the regular pastor, the Rev. Bill Robinson. Seven members came into the church during the week, three by letter and four by profession of faith.

The Churchmen's Fellowship recently elected new officers. Virgil Lee Roberts is their new president, with

Woodroe Washburn being vice-president, and Binford Roberts secretary-treasurer.

Mrs. Roy Lee Burnett is the new president of the Women's Fellowship. Mrs. Woodroe Washburn is vice-president and Mrs. Barrett Ingram and Mrs. Justin Duck are treasurer and secretary respectively. The chairmen of the areas of work are as follows: Evangelism & Spiritual Life, Mrs. Woodroe Washburn; Stewardship, Mrs. Edward Duck; Christian Education, Mrs. Herbert Fuller; Friendly Service, Mrs. Carl Jennings; Social Action, Mrs. Ronnil Jennings; Missionary Education, Mrs. Barrett Ingram.

The Pilgrim Fellowship is planning a good year with Jimmy Freeman as president, Sylvia Freeman, secretary, Randy Fuller, treasurer and Lynn Brasell, program chairman.

New rest rooms have been installed at the church by the Churchmen's Fellowship. Credit is given to Barrett Ingram for doing most of the work.

The Pilgrim Fellowship paid most of the expenses of two of their members to camp this summer. They raised most of the money for this by having a softball game between the girls and boys.

The Senior High Class at Sunday School has set an example for the other classes by beautifying their classroom. They varnished the floor, hung curtains at the windows, and placed small house plants on the windowsills.

direction and have defied the Bible as if God somehow reposed magically within its dusty leather covers on the library table.

God does live and speak through the Bible as well as through worship and the sacraments. But the pages must be opened, they must be read, and they must be read with understanding, not as if they were mystical cant.

It is the building of this understanding that is one of the great responsibilities of Christian education which we recognize with this observance of Christian Education Week. The responsibility is met only when the best scholarship, the best teaching methods, the most dedicated teachers, are brought to the task. Anything less can mute God's speaking through the Bible directly to us.

(Taken from Christian Education Week insert, National Council of Churches)

HYMN: "O Word of God Incarnate"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

This service may be used for the Church School worship, or the Church Morning Worship (or Evening Worship). This theme is being followed by many denominations during Christian Education Week, which begins September 30, 1962. Let us all join in thinking and sharing our ideas about The Christian and His Bible.

Shirley N. Berry, Chairman
Christian Education Committee
Southeast Convention

HERE AND THERE

Rev. Wesley W. Martin

Rev. Wesley W. Martin, ministerial member of the Georgia-South Carolina Conference and director of the Southern Office of the Presbyterian Minister's Fund, has been called to serve the Fredonia Congregational Christian Church, Barnesville, Ga., for the coming year.

* * * *

Rev. Joseph H. Brown

Rev. Joseph H. Brown, pastor of the Baker, Fla., Good Hope Church and the Crestview, Fla., Mission, has been granted a license by the South Alabama-Northwest Florida Association.

* * * *

President Walter A. Graham and Rev. Emilie F. Pitcock were the guest speakers at the homecoming of Elder Congregational Christian Church, Sunday, September 2.

* * * *

Mr. W. Pressley Ingram and Mr. Rufus G. Obrecht attended the Third National Meeting of Men of the United Church at Purdue University, August 17-19. Mrs. Obrecht accompanied her husband.

* * * *

The 16th World Order and United Nations Seminar of the United Church will be held October 16-17, Carnegie International Center, New York. For information write Rev. Herman F. Reising, CCSA, 289 Park Ave. South, New York 10, N. Y.

* * *

The Board of Trustees of Southern Union College will meet at the college on Friday, September 21. The new Library building will be dedicated on that day. Officials of the National Women's Fellowship, whose gifts made the building possible, will be present.

* * *

Attention Young People!!!

National Work Day for Christ will be held on Saturday, October 20. Plan now for your young people's group to participate. For information, write Rev. Emilie F. Pitcock at the convention office, 673 Piedmont Ave., N. E., Atlanta 8, Ga.

NOTICE!!!

Men's Sunday October 21, 1962

Materials for the celebration of Men's Sunday may be secured from the Churchmen's Fellowship, 1720 Chouteau Ave., St. Louis 3, Mo. Plan now to observe Men's Sunday.



MISS PEGGY HAMMOCK

Former PF President Now College Professor

Miss Peggy Genette Hammock has been appointed professor of mathematics at Southern Union College.

A native of Langdale, Miss Hammock graduated from Southern Union College and completed her college work at Jacksonville State College with a degree of Bachelor of Science.

Miss Hammock was valedictorian of her graduating class at Southern Union and was chosen Miss Southern Union during her student days.

She is a past president of the Pilgrim Fellowship of the Southeast Convention and served the convention as a Student Summer Service Worker. She is a member of the Todd Church.

Convention Moderator Takes Columbus Church

The Reverend J. Kermit Harris, moderator of the Southeast Convention, has accepted the call to the First Congregational Christian Church, Columbus, Ga. Rev. and Mrs. Harris and their two sons now live at 4546 Celia Drive, Edgewood, Columbus, Georgia. Mr. Harris formerly served the Fredonia Church, Barnesville, Ga.

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UNITED CHURCH HERALD

Christian Enlistment Materials To Pastors

"There is a little of the prophet in everyone." Thus commented a prominent educator in discussing the future of the church. Leaders of many local churches have recognized the truth to include the thinking of the congregation in their plans. Leaders of the United Church have likewise felt the need for grass-roots thinking.

This year visitors in the Christian Enlistment have been asked to survey the hopes and dreams of our people for the future of the United Church. Local churches throughout the land will be participating. Their suggestions will be channeled to leaders of the church at every level — local, conference, and national.

This and other recommendations for your Christian Enlistment are detailed in the Stewardship Council Fall Packet. Pastors of all local churches should receive this packet about the first of September. Those laymen directly concerned for planning your Christian Enlistment should confer with their pastors and order material immediately.

Of particular importance this year are the pamphlet, *Preparing Your Visitors*, and the leaflet, *Visitors' Guide*. Those responsible for program and budgets should consult *Preparing Your Benevolence Budget*, a sample of which was included in the Spring Packet. Subject: **A Special Congregational Meeting for Mission.**

In view of the great new fact — the United Church of Christ — it has been officially proposed that each congregation hold a special church meeting. This meeting will focus on the mission of the United Church of Christ and its local implications. Such a meeting is clearly outlined in a leaflet, *A Proposed Congregational Meeting*, included in the Stewardship Council Spring Packet. If you have not yet done so, plan now to hold such a meeting this fall before your Christian Enlistment. The above leaflet and other related material is available from the Stewardship Council.

Rev. Hugh Lasseter, former pastor of Lowell Church, Roanoke, is enrolled as a student at Duke Divinity School, Durham, N. C.



REV. CLARENCE W. BALDWIN

Rev. Clarence W. Baldwin Accepts Fort Worth Call

The Reverend Clarence W. Baldwin, minister of Pilgrim Congregational Church, Birmingham, Alabama, has resigned effective October 1, 1962, in order to accept the call extended to him by the First Congregational Church, Fort Worth, Texas.

Mr. Baldwin was called to Pilgrim Church in 1957. During the five year period of his ministry the church relocated in its beautiful and efficient new plant. The membership has grown from 209 to 275.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin have been active in the work of the churches on the association and convention levels. Mrs. Baldwin has taken leading roles in the program of the Woman's Fellowship, has served on the convention Christian Education Committee, and has been active in youth work.

Presently the moderator of the North Alabama Association, Mr. Baldwin, is also a member of the convention board of directors and is chairman of the Committee on the Church and Ministry.

Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin and daughter, Kathleen, will be greatly missed from our area. We wish them well as they move to their new home and begin their work in Fort Worth.

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